

French Guarantee Plan Called Fatal to Roads

Weak Rail Lines Put in Politics, Reports Frank H. Fayant

Government guarantee of income on private capital invested in railroads has proved a disappointment in France, according to a report by Frank H. Fayant to the Association of Railway Executives. The report says the guarantee has served only to entangle the weaker French roads in politics and public finance, the spirit of initiative being killed and the operating efficiency lowered.

"If in this country," the report continues, "we embark on a policy of government guarantee of incomes on railroad investments how long would it be before the government assumed control of the business, especially if the private managements failed to earn the income guaranteed and the public

treasury failed to make up the deficit? "Instead of getting the railroads out of politics, would not such a partnership inevitably drag them more deeply into the meshes of partisan struggles?" Mr. Fayant, who spent several months last year attached to General Pershing's headquarters and who made a study of French railroad conditions, says:

"The guarantee has been a handicap to progress and has stunted private initiative. Taking the report of the five private French companies it is seen that, while in 1913 their total debt on account of advances to pay interest and dividends was 636,000,000 francs, at the end of 1917 it had reached 1,400,000,000 francs."

Dinner for Lord Reading

Lord Reading, Lord Chief Justice of England, will be the guest of honor at a dinner to be given next Saturday at the Waldorf-Astoria by the New York Bar Association. John G. Milburn, president of the Bar Association, will preside and Elihu Root and Chief Justice Arthur P. Rugg, of Massachusetts, will speak.

Support for Wheat Urged

Houston Cables President Asking Action on Price Guarantee

WASHINGTON, March 30.—Secretary of Agriculture Houston has cabled the President recommending that the Grain Corporation of the food administration begin at once making good the government price guarantee on the 1919 wheat crop, the department announced here to-day.

At the same time the department denied published reports that it favored handling the guarantee by its own agencies rather than the food administration, but added that "if the President designated the Department of Agriculture to handle the guarantee it would assume the task and discharge it to the best of its ability."

17 Charged With Fraud

HARTFORD, Conn., March 29.—Seventeen men were arrested here to-day by local police and agents of the

Department of Justice on charges of fraud and obtaining money under false pretences. All but five of the men wore army uniforms and claimed to be discharged soldiers. It is alleged that the men took money for subscriptions to a magazine said to be published at Pennington, N. J., which they claimed was devoted to the interests of wounded soldiers. More than \$1,300 in currency was found in the pockets of the men.

Tenants May Buy Apartments

A cooperative tenants' association, with control over the Langhorne apartments, at 809 Riverside Drive, probably will be formed by the occupants of apartments in that dwelling. The prospective purchase of the property will be looked into to-day by a committee of tenants. The tenants of the Langhorne apartments are fighting against an increase of rent levied against them, although their leases had not expired.

Mann's Power Must Be Cut, Says Longworth

Holds Whip and Over Legislation in Next House by Control Gained in Committee, He Declares

Party Victory Half Won

Support of Nation in Hour of Peril Is Threatened Under His Dominance

New York Tribune Washington Bureau WASHINGTON, March 30.—Declaring that James K. Mann is "in a position to exercise a more potent influence over legislation in the next House than if he had been Speaker" and asserting that the "victory over reactionism and lukewarmness in support of the nation in the hour of its greatest peril is less than half won," Representative Nicholas Longworth issued another statement to-night, insisting that the organization of the House must not be left under the control of Mr. Mann.

"That the country is interested in the organization of the next Congress," said Mr. Longworth, "particularly the House of Representatives, is apparent from the great number of letters and newspaper articles I have received from all parts of the country. It is highly significant that at least 95 per cent of these are written in commendation of the course pursued by some of us in criticism of an opposition to the programme of the Mann-controlled and Mann-handled committee on committees, and they completely justify our determination to carry our fight into the Republican caucus."

"Much credit has been taken by Mr. Mann and his friends for the speed with which the 120-odd places on the standing committees were dispensed. There is nothing remarkable about that under the circumstances, in view of the fact that Mr. Mann and seven other gentlemen, all his ardent supporters, could outvote, under the ingenious system he devised, the other eighteen members of the committee and carry any point they pleased, so that once they had determined to abide strictly by the seniority rule the rest was simple.

"We were not burdened with the duty of taking into consideration the legislative record or the fitness or proved ability of any man, but only his length of service. About the only discretion exercised was in the placing of new members, and so far as that is concerned it is only fair to say that the work of the committee was entirely commendable, in that no reprisals were made or attention paid to the votes of these new members in the Speakership contest. The net result, however, has been to leave many of the important committees badly balanced geographically, to prevent the appointment of the strongest men from the various states upon committees which needed strengthening sadly, and to place at the head of some of the leading committees men who, judged by their legislative records both before and in war and by their known ability or lack of it, are not qualified for such high position in times like these.

"Finally, and most significant of all, while the vote in the Republican caucus on the Speakership was more than two to one against Mr. Mann, of the chairman of the twenty-five most important committees in the House, twenty voted for him for Speaker.

"Floor leader Mann Aid "For floor leader Mr. Mondell was selected by the Mann interests, a gentleman of high character and brilliant attainments both as an orator and a parliamentarian, but one who of war record is dubious, to say the least, and whose record on preparedness is comparable only with those of Mr. Kitchin and Mr. Dent. It is hardly necessary to say that he is now and has been for years one of Mr. Mann's most vigorous supporters.

"For the important office of whip Mr. Knutson, of Minnesota, was selected, a young gentleman of agreeable personality but of little legislative experience, having served only one term. He was one of Mr. Mann's most strenuous supporters for the Speakership.

"Lastly, and most important of all by far, the steering committee was selected, a majority of the membership being supporters of Mr. Mann. This is an entirely new piece of legislative machinery, one unprecedented in the history of the Republican party when it was in power, and few people, I think, realize the importance of its duties or the vast powers that it will wield in the coming Congress. This particular committee will be in a sense supreme over not only the Speaker but all the standing committees of the House, because it will determine the legislative programme of the next Congress so far as the House is concerned. It will be called upon to decide which policies are to be pressed to the fore and what pushed to the rear. It will have all the powers formerly possessed by Speaker Cannon and his predecessors of advancing or retarding certain legislation. It will be the real legislative agent of the Republican party in formulating its programme for 1920, and it is no exaggeration to say that it will have the major part in the writing of the Republican platform for 1920.

"Should Be Representative "It goes without saying that such a committee ought to be truly representative not only of the spirit of the Republican party to-day but of its hopes and aspirations for the future. It should be representative, too, of all classes of the country and of all sections of our citizenship. Is the committee as at present constituted so representative? Absolutely not. It consists of five men, Mr. Moore, of Pennsylvania; Mr. Madden, of Illinois; Mr. Dunn, of New York; Mr. Winslow, of Massachusetts, and myself. A glance at the map will show that no one of the Southern tier of states and not a state west of the Mississippi River is represented on the committee.

"It is true that Mr. Mondell, of Wyoming, is chairman of the committee by virtue of his office as floor leader, but inasmuch as the resolution restricting it, he is not a member of the committee, but merely presides at its deliberations. Under the plural system of voting adopted in Mr. Mann's Committee on Committees, it represents only 147 Republican votes, leaving ninety votes unrepresented, and it so happens that outside of the twenty-seven votes of Ohio and Indiana, which I may be fairly said to represent, with a gain of ten votes in the last election, the ninety votes contain the Republican gains which made our victory possible. Is it anything more than fair that the Southern tier of states, which gained four votes, the great agricultural states of the Northwest and

Middle West and the great states on the Pacific coast, which gained thirteen votes, should have a voice in determining the party policies?

Suggests Larger Committee "Mr. Johnson, of South Dakota, has offered a resolution, the purpose of which is to enlarge and liberalize the steering committee. He advocates the increase of the membership of the steering committee by four, by adding a man from the Southeastern states, one from the Northwest, one from the Middle West and one from the Pacific Coast states. He insists particularly that labor should have a voice in our deliberations. We think that the committee should be the gainer by its increase, not only geographically, but by the addition to it of that liberal and progressive thought which is characteristic of the rank and file of the Republican party of to-day. Nolan, of California, we find at once an able and level-headed man and one actually affiliated with labor organizations. We believe that the steering committee will be of inestimable value in dealing with labor problems, which are certain to come to the fore in the next Congress.

"The sum and substance of the whole business is just this: With twenty out of twenty-five of the principal chairmen of committees, and many other committee members, the floor leader, the whip and the majority of the steering committee under obligations or conceiving themselves to be under obligations to him, Mr. Mann is in a position to exercise a more potent influence over legislation in the next House than if he had been Speaker.

Must Liberalize Steering Body "The victory over reactionism and lukewarmness in support of the nation in the hour of its greatest peril is less than half won. We all want harmony and we will go to any length to achieve it short of the sacrifice of basic principle. The first thing to do to bring harmony, complete and lasting, is to liberalize the steering committee. To make it truly responsive to the demands of the age and the spirit of the times. To make it certain that in its councils labor and agriculture shall have a full and fair hearing. To make it impossible that it should be controlled by one man through recognition of favors had at his hands. To make it, in short, a truly competent and responsible legislative agent of the Republican party of the nation.

"What possible objection can be urged against this liberal program unless it be that the steering committee ought to be the servant of some clique rather than that of the Republican party?"

Brooklyn Italians Urge Fiume Claim In Cable to Wilson

Gen. Emilio Guglielmotti Cheered by Thousands in Demand Allies Give Justice to His Native Land

More than 2,000 Italian citizens of Brooklyn at Kismet Temple yesterday afternoon cheered General Emilio Guglielmotti, head of the Italian military mission to the United States, when he declared:

"Italy insists that the Allies give her justice in accordance with the principles of President Wilson, and we will get it."

The Italian general was the guest of honor at a patriotic mass meeting called to support Italy's Fiume-Dalmatian claims at the peace conference.

Those claims were embodied in resolutions and a cablegram which were drawn up at the close of the meeting and which will be sent to the President at Paris.

"The rights of Italy on the Adriatic," said General Guglielmotti, "are the same as the rights of France in Alsace-Lorraine."

More Just to Enemy Than Ally "Why so much interest in the Jugoslavs?" asked Judge John J. Freschi, of the Court of Special Sessions, who was another speaker. "Where are their rights in this matter? If America is to treat Italy as an ally Americans must treat the Jugoslavs as enemies."

Judge Freschi praised the Italian troops, and in discussing Italy's share in the fighting cited a special cable printed in The New York Tribune under date of March 12, in which von Hindenburg, the German general, had attributed his country's defeat partly to "the tenacity of the Italian army."

Other speakers were: Captain G. Lorenzoni, who is speaking in various parts of the country on Italy's claims; R. Tritoni, Consul-General; Jerome J. Licari, Arthur Benington, Miss Mimi Bernard, Assistant United States District Attorney Paul Yaselli and Stephen Miele, head of the order of Sons of Italy, representing 150,000 Italians in this country.

Send Cable to President The cablegram sent to the President is as follows: "The Italian colony of Brooklyn, hailing you the champion of peace built on justice, earnestly urges you to weigh in your deep wisdom Italy's vital rights on the eastern shore of the Adriatic and champion Italy's just claims, and blesses you for all you are doing to make this world a better place to live in."

The resolutions adopted are: "Whereas, Italy has lately fought and conquered with the forces of right and democracy; and

"Whereas, Italy's claims to the parts of the eastern coast of the Adriatic which are Italian in geography, in history, in civilization; and

"Whereas, we, the Italians of Brooklyn, trust in the justice and wisdom of Woodrow Wilson, President of the United States of America; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That we, the Italians of Brooklyn, in meeting assembled, make an earnest appeal to the President of the United States to consider and champion the just claims of Italy to the said coast."

Parley Dissension Denied French and U.S. Delegates Work in Harmony, Says Knecht

"Some have said that Foreign Minister Clemenceau thought of tendering his resignation," continued Mr. Knecht. "These statements are absolutely false and we contribute toward the hastening of real peace by denying them.

"Naturally we have not the same views on minor matters, but our delegates and yours have always understood each other. France is extremely thankful to the United States."

Murphy Said To Be Planning Clark's Defeat

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Tammany. Murphy is said to have told some go-between that he was inclined to join in the fight against Clark, but the anti-Clark men will not quote one or more of them on this.

Clark Men Not Disturbed

But the Clark men are not disturbed. In the Speaker and in Kitchin they probably have the two most popular men in the entire House. Half a dozen members with no particular interest in the fight say Kitchin can stampede the caucus, no matter how many votes seem to be lined up against Clark. The anti-Clark men, their opponents say, are at the crest of their strength right now, and will come a crupper when they announce the name of their candidate for Democratic leader. The Clark men then will have some one to shoot at besides Burleson, and their fight will become, they think, correspondingly more vigorous.

The anti-Clark men were particularly pleased to-day at being able to give out a statement attacking the Speaker. It contains an interview with Representative Henry T. Rainey, of Illinois. Mr. Rainey ranks next to Claude Kitchin on the Ways and Means Committee.

The statement, issued by the "Democratic Reorganization Committee," says: "The Democratic Reorganization Committee feel greatly elated over being able to 'smoke' Speaker Champ Clark out into making a statement favoring a league of nations, when he had formerly stated that the speech of Senator Reed against the league of nations was unanswerable."

Clark's Utterances Too Late

"The few short sentences uttered by Mr. Clark on this important question came so late that it clearly shows his lukewarmness to the subject and were made after fifty Senators from his own state had taken Senator Reed's task for being against the league of nations—offering to resign their positions with him, and to take the issue direct to the people of Missouri. Those interested in securing a Democratic minority leader are now more firmly convinced that unless a leader can be secured who is firm, aggressive, progressive and in full accord with the administration and the Democrats of the country, the party has rough sledding ahead."

"Representative Henry T. Rainey, of Illinois, the ranking member of the Ways and Means Committee of the Sixty-fifth Congress, who has had sixteen years' service in Congress, strongly endorsed the movement to-day in the following statement given out by the Democratic reorganization committee.

Mr. Rainey's Statement

"Mr. Rainey's statement is as follows: "The way to escape the kind of leadership we have been having in the Democratic minority in the next House is to submit the control of the Democratic minority to the next House to a steering committee. It is a well known fact that throughout the war leaders of the Democratic majority of the House were not in sympathy with the Administration and there was no attempt on their part to conceal their hostility to the Administration and the Administration plans for organization and carrying out a successful conclusion of our participation in the great war."

"It would be particularly unfortunate at the present time to place the Democratic Administration between two fires. We can expect all sorts of investigations to be inaugurated by the Republican majority in the House. We ought to at least have a Democratic organization and a minority leader who will defend the Administration when it ought to be defended. A militant minority leader properly elected by the steering committee, which cannot be said to be sectional in character, acting in harmony with the Democratic Administration, may retrieve the losses of last November. There are more Democrats in Illinois, a Northern state, than there are in several Southern states. A steering committee such as proposed will offset the argument often used with so much effect that the Democratic party is merely a party of the South."

"I regard it as of the greatest importance that the Democratic minority in the next House of Representatives act in harmony with the Administration, and my duty, as I see it, compels me to support the plans of the Democratic Reorganization Committee."

Broker Held as Disorderly Accused of Saying He'd Kill Wilson for \$1.50

A man who said he was Marshall Clark, a real estate broker, of Oyster Bay, was arraigned in men's night court last night on the charge of disorderly conduct. The complaint was made by Clyde A. Capson, of 228 East Sixty-ninth Street, who told the police he heard Clark say he would "kill President Wilson for \$1.50." The remark is alleged to have been made in a restaurant at 786 Lexington Avenue. Clark asked for a postponement, and Magistrate Ringel set hearing on the case for to-morrow. Bail was fixed at \$100.



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Bishop Greer Asks Catholic To Fill Pulpit

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take one of these services in the Cathedral. I feel friendly toward all the orthodox denominations and believe that broad and generous sympathy should prevail throughout the church. "I don't believe in breaking down the barriers of the church but neither do I believe that the church should be so high that you can't get them down or climb over them."

"Wouldn't the proposed canon tend to destroy the individuality of the various churches and give certain precedence to the Episcopal Church?" "Certainly not," affirmed Bishop Greer. "None of the churches would lose its individuality. Precedence would be given to the episcopate—not to the Episcopal Church. It would mean the universal recognition of the historic order dating back to apostolic times. Most of the churches throughout the world, including the Greek and Roman, are Episcopalian, in that ordination is conferred by bishops."

"Other denominations in this country, besides the Episcopal and Congregational churches, have expressed their sympathy for the movement. It is all tentative at present, but it will be fully discussed at our triennial meeting and the possibilities of united missionary work and fuller cooperation in the home field will be thoroughly investigated."

"Would the establishment of a league of nations tend to speed up your scheme for international unity among the churches?"

"It might, if it could adequately demonstrate the advantages of union among all the representative forces of the world," said Bishop Greer.

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